



Marble Roll

Sense of Accomplishment:

Sense of Accomplishment is about celebrating the importance of effort and perseverance as signs of your success. The Condition is about trying repeatedly and facing challenges rather than giving up. Sense of Accomplishment is about all your talents and skill rather than just skills that are measured by tests and grades.

Objective:

Students will be able to discuss the importance of effort and perseverance. Students will be able to reflect on what is valued in school.

Materials:

Half a paper towel roll cut lengthwise for every student; four or five marbles; Famous Failures YouTube video; Edmodo (for extended learning).

Steps:

- Divide students into teams of five to seven. Give each student a half tube and have teams stand at one end of the room.
- Establish a starting point (A) and an ending point (B). The distance can be about the length of a standard classroom.
- Tell students that the challenge is to move the marble from one end of the room to the other using the half paper tube. Have students line up and start the marble by rolling it down the half tube toward his or her teammate. The next person on the team catches the marble in his or her tube and proceeds to roll it and drop it into the next person's tube. Continue doing this until the team reaches point B. Students cannot carry the marble in their tube.
- Tell teams they will receive a grade for this activity. However, do not tell them what you are grading. Instead of a traditional grade that rewards the team who came in first with an A, second B, and so on, distribute grades based on teamwork, effort, perseverance or having the most fun.
- Follow up with the YouTube video Famous Failures. Ask: What did these famous people do after they experienced failure? Lead a discussion about the importance of effort and perseverance. How do these characteristics affect schoolwork? What does effort and perseverance look like in school?

Personal Reflection:

Reflect on a time that you wanted to give up because an assignment or task was too hard.

- What strategies did you use to overcome this frustration?
- Why did you put forth effort on this project?
- What was the outcome?

Group Reflection:

- Were you surprised by your groups' grade in the marble activity? Why or why not?
- What accomplishments are typically recognized in schools? In addition to those accomplishments, what other types of accomplishments should be recognized?
- Why are effort and hard work important?

Extended Learning:

Based on the Famous Failures video, students can identify and research a person who has illustrated great perseverance and effort. Students should write a brief report on what motivated the person, how the person persevered or showed effort, and what the outcome was. Students can share their report on Edmodo or a social media network of their choice.

Notes
